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GERMANS REPULSE SOVIET ONSLAUGHT ON BRESLAU FRONT

Konev's Troops Make Several Penetrations in Lauban, Sorau and Guben Areas

Domei

BERLIN, February 20.—The section of the front between Lauban, Sorau, and Guben is the center of heavy fighting on the Eastern Front. Marshal Ivan Konev's troops scored several deep penetrations for which grim fighting is going on. The Soviet attack on the fortress of Breslau was particularly fierce on the southwest and east fronts in the past 24 hours. The garrison, however, succeeded in repelling these attacks. The garrison of Glogau was also able to parry all attacks by the enemy.

On the southern wing of the Silesian front there were only weaker Soviet attacks at Schwarzwasser, north of Ratibor and south of Breslau which broke down in front of the German positions.

While the situation continues to be calm on the front from Guben via Frankfurt and Kuestrin as far as the southern part of the Pomeranian front and is merely marked by continuous bringing up of reinforcements by the Soviets, heavy fighting is taking place in the south of Pomerania. The Soviets again attacked with strong forces at the focal points in the area of Pyritz, Stargard and Arnswalde without being able to score any essential success and losing 26 tanks.

Soviets Continue Pressure

In the critical front sector of Tucheler Heath and west of the Vistula General Rokossovski continues his pressure with strong forces toward the north. The Grman troops offered stiff resistance in vigorous fighting. The garrison of Graudenz resisted in the last 24 hours the continuous heavy concentric assaults.

The battle in East Prussia is becoming more vigorous in the focal points. The Soviets tried at all costs to force a decision there, but they were met again and again with stiff resistance and lost 59 tanks in their attacks of the last few days.

In Courland the Soviets have concentrated further forces in order to score a success northwest of Doblen. The fighting expanded to other sections, but all attacks failed.

The general war situation on the Eastern Front is pointing to new offensives by the Soviet armies. Even if in the fighting area north of Western Beskides the fighting activity abated somewhat due to great German defensive success during the past 24 hours, one has to expect that new major operations will soon develop again in the fighting area of the Moravian gate. Extension of the offensive front beyond the Oder bend between Fuerstenberg and Crossen toward the south has brought forward Konev's troops to the Crossen-Lauban line. Obviously the Soviet High Command intends to let this wing gain additional speed toward the west approximately to the Guben-Forst-Weisswasser-Goerlitz line before a major offensive is launched.

Heavy fighting developed during the past 24 hours again on the Crossen-Guben highway, near Sommerfeld-Guben, near Sommerfeld, along the Sorau-Lauban railroad and on the Bunzlau-Goerlitz highway. In view of the extremely active German defense and repeated counter-attack the gains of the Soviets were only small. North of Kuestrin the Soviets carried out only purely local engagements in order to improve their deployment bases in the sector of Kuestrin.

Extremely lively on the other hand was the fighting of Zhukov's troops in the Neoze-Warthe sector where the enemy is attempting to push forward his attack to the northwest on the Pyritz-Kallies line.

Fierce German Resistance

The strategical importance of this front is clearly conceivable. Heavy pressure of the Soviet army in the East Prussian area with continuous attacks toward the south of Tuchel Heath and northwest of Graudenz is for the purpose of cutting off Pomerania. This onslaught met especially tenacious German resistance that so far neither penetration nor the rolling up of the Vistula front became a fact. The Kremlin realizes the existence of strong German forces in southern Pomerania, West Prussia and East Prussia to the flanks [illegible] of the coming operations. [illegible] employment without consideration for losses of rifle and tank divisions shown in the fight for East Prussia is not for the purpose of tying down the German forces but rather in annihilating them.

Out of this necessity derives the hard fighting between Braunsberg and Wormditt which became a major battle with the focal point at Mehrsack although the Soviet attacks near Zinton abated considerably. Achieved penetrations at once have been answered by German counteractions.

Attempt to carry out a major attack against Koeingsberg from the Samland area has already been repelled by the German defensive fire which was lively supported by the Pillau coastal batteries.

Grand Mufti Expresses Gratitude to Shigemitsu For Pro-Moslem Policy

The Grand Mufti of Jerusalem has sent a message of thanks to Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu expressing the deep appreciation of the Mohammedans for the Japanese Government's policy toward them, it was learned on Wednesday. The message, according to a telegram from Hiroshi Oshima, Japanese Ambassador to Berlin, to the Foreign Office, said that the Mohammedans were also grateful for the announcement by Foreign Minister Shigemitsu in the Diet on January 28 that all Mohammedans in Japanese-controlled areas would not be discriminated against and would be treated with goodwill.

ROOSEVELT INDIGNANT AT DE GAULLE'S ACTION

French General Refused to See President at Algiers on Return From Crimea

Domei

LISBON, February 20.—Following his meeting with Prime Minister Churchill at Alexandria, President Roosevelt proceeded to Algiers where he received reports from Jefferson Caffery, American Ambassador to Paris, and Alexander Kirk, American Ambassador to Rome, who had been waiting for him there, and discussed the European situation, says a Washington dispatch.

It appears that President Roosevelt was irked because General Charles de Gaulle, President of the Provisional Government of France, had refused his invitation for a conference at Algiers following the Crimea Conference.

President Roosevelt, according to a dispatch from Algiers, overwhelmed by anger, is said to have stated clearly:

"It has come about that various questions, which are of great importance to both America and France and have close bearings on the mutual interests of the two countries, are held in abeyance, I had a heartfelt desire to see General de Gaulle before my departure for home."

It goes without saying that this has cast the shadow not of a piece of a cloud but a whole black cloud on the future of relations between America and France.

Political quarters in America, according to a Washington dispatch, see in this a sign of deterioration of the relations between America and France.

American political circles, too, are reported to be highly indignant at this "arrogant" attitude of De Gaulle.

Bidault Verifies Report

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 20.—French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault today confirmed that President General Charles de Gaulle of the French Provisional Government refused an invitation to meet President Roosevelt in Algiers, according to a Paris report.

U.S. Envoy Blamed

Domei

BERLIN, February 20.—In connection with the debate on Roosevelt's invitation to President General Charles de Gaulle of the French Provisional Government, the Wilhelmstrasse points out that the French press was vigorously attacking the American Ambassador Jefferson Caffery in Paris who was the one responsible for the indiscretion that led to the publication of the affair. This, however, did not hamper the British and American correspondents in Paris who were continuing in the same indiscreet vein to disclose all details of the incident the Wilhemstrasse said while a commentary in the Daily Mail particularly reflected the annoyance felt in Britain and the United States at De Gaulle.

BRITISH LOSSES HEAVY IN GOCH AREA IN WEST

Fierce Pill-Box Fighting Going On at Pruem-Echternach Sector Farther South

Domei

BERLIN, February 20.—German troops repelled in the past 24 hours in the battle on the Western Front all attempts by the enemy to break through between the Meuse and the lower Rhime, on the Sauer, at the Orscholz bolt and at Forbach. The Germans held their main fighting line in all sections.

The Canadians carried out several attacks between the Meuse and the lower Rhine, east of Luisendorf and east of Goch, but they broke down in the German fire. The British troops which were able to penetrate into the northern part of Goch were taken under the German fire and are suffering heavy losses. Efforts to aid these troops by reinforcements were frustrated. East of Aachen the day was marked by concentrated American artillery fire. Attempts made by the Americans to cross the Roer at Linnich were foiled.

Heavy pill-box fighting is taking place at present on this front at Prum-Echternach where the Americans are trying to push from the north and south. At the Orscholz bolt artillery fire dominated in the past 24 hours. Efforts by the Americans to advance between Sinz and Oberlautern with the aid of tanks failed. In the Forbach area the American attacks south of Stieringen-Wenden were repelled.

Fighting in Goch

Since Monday noon American tank forces are in the market square of Goch, but the German units are still to be found in many parts of the town resisting the enemy shellfire. The assault on Goch began Sunday noon with an almost incessant artillery fire lasting for more than 15 hours. Well camouflaged batteries stationed in Reichwald have spread the fire curtain over the town which had been completely destroyed already a fortnight ago, but in the ruins of which the German parachute forces were grimly holding out. The thrust launched by the British and Canadian divisions was made along the railway from Kleve to Goch as well as in the northwestern direction from Asperden.

On Saturday night the British and Canadian tank groups had already been able to advance as far as the northern rim of the town, but General Bernard Montgomery's efforts to exploit this success, however, failed in view of the German opposition. The fire curtain over the southern part of the town bars entrance into the city. Ferocious street fighting is taking place there now. For the first time the batteries of the the Volkssturm are taking part in the battle between the Meuse and the lower Rhine. While the garrison is continuing its resistance new positions have been established already south and west of Goch where further thrusts by the Canadians were held up.

The Canadians also on Monday failed to gain any operative success between the Meuse and the lower Rhine. With the aid of an unusually large amount of material they merely succeeded in entering the town of Goch where they are still engaged in fiercest house-to-house fighting. They failed also in penetrating at any other point of the main German fighting field which is automatically growing in depth by constantly newly-erected field fortifications. Since the enemy has not ceased throwing new reserves into the battle the continuation of heavy fighting must be expected.

Americans Checked

On the Roer local American attempts to cross the river near Linnich were again successfully repelled. On the whole front of the Ninth U.S. army artillery fire has increased. This points to a possibility that the often-postponed Allied major attack out of the Aachen area will soon be launched. The Third U.S. Army in the sector adjoining to the south on Monday continued attempts to overcome the German front salient pointing to the Our river by doublesided pressure from the north and south. The base of this salient is the Pruem river. The enemy only succeeded to come near the river in the vicinity of the same name and north of Echternach. This river sector is well fitted for defense and has the advantage of considerable shortening of front in case Lieutenant General George S. Patton after all should succeed in forcing the German troops to detach from the Our and to withdraw to Prum. Of course, this is not in view yet. Due to extreme tenacious German resistance the advance of General Patton's forces also on Monday was confined to relatively moderate real gains.

The attack started over the weekend by parts of the Seventh U.S. army on the southern sector on the Western Front in the area between Forbach and Saarbruecken has in the meantime led to violent fighting which is still continuing. Fighting here undoubtedly involves more than mere isolated action with the possible objective of capturing the city of Saarbruecken. Development here must undoubtedly be brought into direct contact with the resumption of the American offensive against southern Palatinate which tendency has been noticeably for several days. If General Patton wants to fight his way again to the West Wall in the Palatinate he must again batter his way through the lower Alsacian and northeastern Lorraine forefield which was deeply expanded again to the lower Vosges as far as the Moder river and Hagenau woods by successful German counterattacks in January.

Heroism of 3 More Army Airmen Wins August Imperial Knowledge

Lieutenant Arifuku, Sergeant Major Suzuki and Corporal Ando Gain Signal Honor for Gallant Death Action Against Enemy

The outstanding exploits of three Japanese Army airmen who distinguished themselves in attacking enemy convoys and airfields in the Leyte operation or in downing B-29 bombers over Tokyo and who had previously won citations have now been brought to the August knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor, the War Ministry announced on Wednesday.

The announcement follows:

"Those who were previously granted citations for their gallant exploits in attacking enemy convoys and airfields in the Leyte operation or in launching ramming attacks against the B-29 bombers in the raid by hostile planes over Japan Proper and whose achievements have been brought to the August knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor follow:

"Lieutenant Hiroshi Arifuku who had fought gallantly in every engagement since the commencement of the Leyte operation and who rendered meritorious military services, contacted an enemy convoy which appeared in the area south of Ormoc on December 7 after braving stormy weather in the darkness of night and scouted the enemy movements for more than one hour. Then he launched a low altitude attack against his objective and met a glorious end.

"Sergeant Major Yasushi Suzuki, as a member of the Shinten Anti-Air Raid Unit of the Special Attack Corps blew up a B-29 bomber by ramming action on January 27 this year when he contacted a formation of 16 enemy planes over Tanashi. He was killed in this gallant action.

"Corporal Kiyoshi Ando who had shot down an enemy plane over Yedogawa on January 9 this year rammed and downed the fourth plane of a formation of 17 enemy aircraft over Tokyo metropolis on January 27 and met heroic death."

GANDHI PROTESTS AGAINST INDIAN LEADERS' ARRESTS

Explains They Are Only Carrying Out His 15-Point Program; Authorities Silent

Domei

LISBON, February 20.—Mahatma Gandhi protested against the renewed arrests of Indian Congress leaders who had been released by the British authorities recently, according to a dispatch from Bombay.

In his declaration, Gandhi stressed that these Indian leaders only carried out his 15-point program. The authorities did not reply to Gandhi's declaration and kept the arrested Indian politicians in custody, the dispatch continued, adding that it is not known how many Indian Congress leaders have been effected by this new wave of arrests.

Mahatma Sees New War

Domei

LISBON, February 18.—Taking the occasion of the publication of the Crimea report by the so-called Big Three of the anti-Axis nations, Mahatma Gandhi, who is silently watching the development of the current world war at his sheltered home in Wardha in the Central Provinces, issued a statement today in which he pointed out that even if the anti-Axis forces gain victory in the current world war it will simply lead to a third world war if the British-American actions in India are to be considered. According to a Reuter's report the following is the gist of Gandhi's statement:

"If things continue as they are in India at present, the victory of the allies in this war will be only nominal, because they will have India and the other nations in the same plight bleeding at their feet. Such victory can only lead in the near future to a bloodier war—if such a thing is possible—than the one that will be ended, for any victory won at the expense of the Indians will mean that out of the ashes of Fascism, National Socialism and Japanese militarism there will have arisen a new monster that will seek to devour all it sees and in a new attempt will be eaten up, leaving I know not what."

GREW ADMITS SOLIDARITY OF JAPAN'S HOME FRONT

Nation Well Set for War Prosecution, He Says in Statement Issued by OWI

Domei

LISBON, February 21.—The solidarity of Japan's home front was admitted by Joseph C. Grew, former United States Ambassador to Tokyo and at present Undersecretary of State, in his statement given at the beginning of a lengthy "Report on the Domestic Situation of Japan" issued by the U.S. Office of War Information this morning, says a Washington dispatch.

Grew's statement said that the Japanese people, living as they are under manifold difficulties and strict control, are working positively with full vigor. The Japanese irrespective of sex and age are so well organized for the prosecution of the war as American mind finds it difficult to understand, the statement is reported to have said.

The Japanese people, according to Grew's papers, are a nation who can act and work with rigid discipline and systematically. Grew stressed that the Americans must take into consideration before they can win final victory, that behind the Japanese soldiers are the strong enemy, the Japanese people, who are firmly determined to fight the war to the bitter end.

Grew then referred fully to Japan's anti-air raid measures, labor conditions, dwelling problems, taxation and other social conditions, but his report was based on outmoded data. He deliberately exaggerated various difficulties confronting Japan for the purpose of making his home consumption report more impressive. Lastly, he said that the Japanese nation is rallying solidly around the Government, in spite of its war for many years and increasing difficulties resulting from the anti-Axis attacks, and that there is no sign visible of the fighting spirit waning among the Japanese nation.

U.S. Solons Draft Labor Bill

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 20.—The U.S. Senate Military Affairs Committee under the chairmanship of Senator Elbert Thomas of Utah has introduced a law providing voluntary control over labor in the United States, says a Washington report. It declared that the new measure has considerable backing of the committee in spite of fresh demands from President Roosevelt requesting for the early passage of the "Fight or Work" Bill which is still yet to be approved by the Senate.

B-29's Over Osaka, Tokyo

One B-29 bomber raided Osaka and its vicinity at 8.30 p.m. on Tuesday, while another penetrated the skies over Tokyo at 5 a.m. the next day. A few bombs were dropped. Shortly after 1 p.m. on Wednesday four enemy planes made a reconnaissance flight over the Kanto district.

Swedish Workers Strike

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 20.—Some 123,000 metal workers are at present on a strike in Sweden and this is the biggest strike in Sweden since 1909 when about 250,000 Swedish workmen walked out.

JAPANESE TO ENCIRCLE ENEMY IN MANILA AREA

Units Attacking Yanks' Flank From Northeast Join Army And Navy Garrison

By M. MATSUZAKI

Of the Military Press Corps

LUZON FRONT, February 21.—Crack Units of the Japanese Army Forces, attacking the rear of the enemy flank from the northwest, joined hands with the Japanese Army and Navy Garrison Units in Manila on February 18. The Japanese Forces are now in a position to encircle a large enemy force.

The increasing intensity of Japanese attacks on the enemy at all points in the Manila area have given rise to signs of wavering in the enemy line.. At this the Japanese Army and Naval Garrison Forces, fighting as one, have been greatly heartened and although hard pressed by the large enemy forces are holding fast to the vital positions in and out the city. They are slashing into the enemy positions in close attacks forcing their way through red flames of fire enwrapping the city.

Embittered close range fighting is taking place in the vicinities of the Intramuros Central Post Office, near Hai Alai and the University of the Philippines. Near Hai Alai more than 50 enemy soldiers were killed or wounded on the night of February 18. Everywhere the enemy is paying dearly in blood as the Japanese Garrison Units continue their furious counterattacks in response to the onslaughts of the Imperial Forces outside the city. The invading enemy forces have been forced to entrench themselves in burnt down buildings and other shelters and to stretch steel wires with bells attached to ward off the deadly thrusts of the Japanese shock units.

On the other hand powerful units of crack Japanese Forces advancing swiftly on the enemy's rear flank from northeast of Manila have penetrated into the airfield in Quezon City, northeast of Manila, since the night of February 17. They have charged straight into the center of a large enemy force.

Another Japanese Unit pressing from the west toward Meycauayan, 15 kilometers north of Manila, attacked an enemy force of five armored cars and 250 men in the northeasterly section of Prinsa toward evening of February 18. Four armored cars were seized and annihilative blows dealt to the enemy.

Furthermore, the picked Japanese Units advancing southward plunged past the enemy's rear positions on February 18 and joined the Japanese Naval Units stationed at the old McKinley barracks and now are engaged in violent fighting with a large enemy force. The southward advancing Japanese Unit charged past enemy tanks and enemy artillery positions. They practically ignored the insistent and furious bombing of enemy planes and the terrific artillery barrage. The Japanese Army and Navy Commanders welcomed the re-enforcing units with deep emotion and hands were gripped in a firm clasp.

The union of the Japanese Garrison Forces in Manila and the re-enforcing units together with the fresh Japanese Units advancing westward on the north side of Manila has resulted in the formation of a strong Japanese counter encirclement of the enemy in Manila from the east and the north.

Fierce Struggle Going On

By T. TADA

Of the Military Press Corps

LUZON FRONT, February 20.—The unit under the direction of Major Nouchi in the Intramuros district in the old Manila city, with the Pasig River beyond, entrenched in a position on the site of Fort Santiago, and confined in a narrow area under constant gunfire, continued on February 18 to engage in a fierce struggle with the enemy force of from 1,200 to 1,300 men possessed of 10 tanks.

The weather is becoming hot in the Manila area. There are further difficulties in the scarcity of drinking water and in the spread of epidemics.

The Americans in the city who are showing signs of fatigue and exhaustion, are rapidly becoming disheartened in the conduct of attacks on the Japanese Unit which is small in number.

The Nouchi Unit has been quick to seize the opportunity presented by the growing exhaustion of the Americans to counterattack them by closing-in action and achieved great results.

The Nouchi Unit now is the object of admiration among the Japanese Forces on the Manila front.

A small company of the Nouchi Unit, which has gone on the duty of garrisoning in the McKinley area, finds itself cut off from the main body of the unit. But the heroism it showed is as inspiring as the bravery of the rest of the unit.

On the night of February 17, for instance, the company effected an attack by crossing the Pasig River. A number of men under the direction of the company commander were the first to cross the river secretly. They threw hand-grenades into the machine-gun position of the enemy on the other side of the river, and destroyed two machine-guns. This was the signal for all the other members of the company to cross the river. Then they advanced northward, driving the enemy before them.

The unit under the direction of First Lieutenant Mizutani with its position in the neighborhood of the old McKinley barracks, was holding its ground in the face of fierce artillery and bombing attacks by the enemy. It had already disabled and set afire six enemy tanks and killed and wounded more than 300 Americans. When at length it received orders to wheel round, it at once blasted its position. The more seriously wounded, fearing that they would be a burden on their comrades, died gloriously with the blasting of the position. All the other members of the unit were successful in breaking through the besieging enemy and assembled at a designated point.

The enemy which invaded a part of the old McKinley barracks area about noon on February 17 has been repulsed by the Japanese after a fierce attack.

The Central Manila Post Office on the southern bank of the Pasig River has mostly been demolished under artillery and bombing attacks. However, it continues to be defended by the small Japanese Garrison, which is checking the enemy on the other side of the river intent on crossing the river.

Enemy Surrounded

By M. MATSUZAKI

Of the Military Press Corps

FOREMOST LUZON FRONT, February 20.—Advancing over numerous creeks and marshes surrounding Manila in a drive to strike the flank of the American invasion forces, a crack Japanese Unit early on the morning of February 16 smashed enemy mobile troops on its way and completely occupied Novaliches, 15 kilometers north of Manila, where the reservoir is situated.

On February 17, the same unit advanced to the airfield north of Manila and also to Marikina, 10 kilometers northeast of the city, while another unit reached Quezon City and seized control of the Quezon Airfield. Meanwhile, another Japanese Unit penetrated enemy-infested Manila on the same night and in concert with the Japanese Garrison still continuing desperate counterattacks in the central section, carried out daring storm assaults against enemy artillery positions and blasted powder magazines. This dauntless drive has seriously imperilled Angat, a main supply junction from the north of the American troops infesting Manila, and put them in utter confusion.

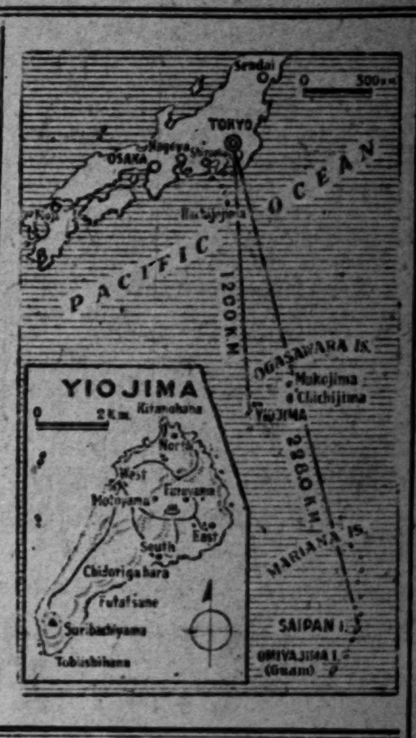
U.S. LOSES THREE WARSHIPS

Japanese Sink Destroyer Off P.I.—Two Mine-Sweepers Also Lost

Domei

LISBON, February 20.—The United States Navy Department announced on February 19 the loss of one destroyer and two mine-sweepers operating in the Philippine war zone, according to a Washington dispatch.

Destroyer PC 1129 was sunk by the Japanese Forces while participating in the Lingayen Gulf operations in January. The two mine-sweepers PT 73 and PT 33 were both stranded and sank.



STIFF FIGHT RAGING ON YIOJIMA ISLAND; ENEMY LOSSES HIGH

More Landings Smashed—100 U.S. Tanks Destroyed in 24 Hours of Battle

Furious fighting continues to develop on Yiojima, the island lying 1,200 kilometers south of Tokyo, following the landing of American forces numbering about 10,000 and supported by about 200 tanks on the morning of February 19.

On the southern coast of the island the U.S. forces are moving persistently bringing continuous reinforcements under cover of unending heavy fleet bombardments and air bombings. By dusk of February 20, the Americans had moved onto the line extending from the South Wharf to Chidori village through the northern corner of Chidori Airfield.

In the meantime, a part of the invasion forces started pushing, this time from the east coast of Yiojima as well as from Idogahama Beach on the western side of the island but were promptly wiped out by the Japanese in one blow. Then another enemy landing attempt was made on Kamiyama Beach east of the island where some American army groups landed, but at sunset of February 20 the Japanese Units completely smashed all of the invaders.

Against Mt. Suribachi on the southern tip of Yiojima, American sea and air attacks from the east and west were directed with fury but the Imperial Units have maintained their positions.

By dawn of February 20 the Japanese Forces had blown up or destroyed at least 100 enemy tanks in the ground battles. American casualties are so heavy that detailed figures are not available. At the enemy landing points on the southern coast of the island numerous sheeted corpses of the enemy officers and men were observed.

On the southern coastal front the Japanese are concentrating their converging fire, day and night, thereby causing heavy losses to the American offensive attempts while with bayonets and hand grenades Japanese shock attacks are being continued with amazing results. Sublieutenant Naka singlehandedly operated a rapidfiring gun blowing up 20-odd enemy amphibian tanks.

Offshore, the American convoy is still steaming into position trying to reinforce their landing strength.

Nimitz Announces Landing

Domei

LISBON, February 20.—The headquarters of Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet has announced that an American force landed on Yiojima at 9 a.m. on February 19, according to an Omiyajima dispatch.

The landing force is said to have been of a strength of nearly 20,000 men of the Fourth and Fifth Marine Divisions belonging to the Fifth Amphibious Corps of the United States Army and under the command of Lieutenant General Holland Smith.

The entire landing operations are said to have been directed by Vice-Admiral Richmond Turner.

Fierce Battle Raging

Domei

LISBON, February 20.—With the landing on Yiojima of about 30,000 American marines from 800 ships and barges, a fierce fighting has developed on that island which reminds one of the battles which took place at Tarawa and Peliliu, according to reports from Omiyajima Island. The Americans are attempting to establish and expand coast fortresses but are meeting stiff Japanese resistance, the reports said.

In describing the situation, an Associated Press correspondent wrote: "Casualties to the American marines are heavy. The present landing operation is the most difficult which the marines have ever tried. Before the fighting is ended, considerable time and sacrificial losses will be necessary."

The United Press correspondent reported as follows: "The first barge fleet was able to reach the shores of Yiojima only after about 8,000 rocket bombs had blasted the way, but our men were fired upon by the Japanese Forces with heavy guns, trench mortars and machine guns. The whole island is now enveloped in dense smoke, and only when the shells explode are flashes of fire seen through the thick smoke screen."

[illegible] WAR MAIN TOPIC [illegible] ALEXANDRIA MEETING

[illegible], Churchill Confer for [illegible] on Pacific Conflict [illegible] Allied Problems

Special to the Nippon Times

[illegible], February 20.—White [illegible] authorities today made public [illegible] that President Roosevelt [illegible] Prime Minister Churchill [illegible]andria on his way back from [illegible] Conference and discuss[illegible] problems concerning Japan and [illegible] War, says a Washington [illegible].

[illegible] the Churchill-Roosevelt [illegible] which lasted only four [illegible] the White House communique [illegible] two leaders carried out im[illegible] discussions on the one ques[illegible] which they could not discuss [illegible] Crimea Conference,—the pro[illegible] of Japan—with which Soviet [illegible] is maintaining neutral rela[illegible] and of the Pacific War.

[illegible] communique revealed that at [illegible] meeting, Churchill assured [illegible] President that the British Gov[illegible] will throw all the strength [illegible] at its command into the war [illegible] Japan as soon as Germany [illegible] crushed and that before that it [illegible] strengthen as much as possible [illegible] British forces already engaged [illegible] war against Japan.

[illegible] Alexandria conference was [illegible] in also by Edward [illegible], U.S. Secretary of State, [illegible] reported in detail on his talks [illegible] Vyacheslav Molotov, Soviet [illegible] Commissar, in Moscow. [illegible] Winant, American Ambassador [illegible] London, also hurried to Alex[illegible] to take part in the meeting.

Meanwhile, a Cairo dispatch today [illegible] an official communique that [illegible] his way back from the Yalta [illegible], President Roosevelt met [illegible] King Faruk I, Ethiopian [illegible] Haile Selassie and Saudi [illegible] King Ibn Saud aboard a [illegible] in the Suez Canal.

Judging from the significant [illegible] report from Cairo to the ef[illegible] that Egypt will become a vital [illegible] center for shifting the [illegible]-Axis troops from Europe to [illegible] Asia to end the war against [illegible], it is held evident that Roos[illegible] made some demand on King [illegible] I in connection with this [illegible].

It is understood that in their pri[illegible] conference held on Malta Island [illegible] to the Crimea Conference, [illegible] and Churchill mainly dis[illegible] strategic and political prob[illegible] of Europe, leaving the war [illegible] Japan for some other oppor[illegible]. In their Alexandria talks, [illegible] are understood to have ex[illegible] opinions concerning co[illegible] between America and [illegible] in the war against Japan, [illegible] of East Asia including Japan [illegible] the Soviet Union's attitude to[illegible] the war against Japan and [illegible] problems concerning Japan.

CRISIS LOOMS IN RUMANIA

Resignation of Radescu Government Unlikely Is Consensus

Domei

LISBON, February 20.—Rumania is now passing through a political crisis, according to a report from Bucharest but the Government under Premier General Nicolae Radescu will hardly resign.

Radescu declared himself willing not to use force to keep himself in power, the report continued. The resignation of the Radescu Government would doubtless lead to a serious domestic crisis.

In spite of sharp criticism of Radescu's policy by the National Democratic front circles it appears unlikely that Radescu will be compelled to offer his resignation.

Caused by Communists

Domei

BERLIN, February 20.—Communists would be able to blow up the Rumanian Government and take possession of key points in the country in the opinion of the Wilhelmstrasse.

The spokesman of the Wilhelmstrasse found it interesting that the present crisis in Rumania had been precipitated by the Communists immediately after the Crimea Conference. Another outcome of this conference, in his opinion, was the strong attack made by the Pravda against General Francisco Franco, Spanish Chief of State. A question was raised here whether Prime Minister Churchill gave Premier Josef Stalin free hand for aiding the Spanish Communists. But the spokesman believed that the anti-Bolshevist movement in Spain was so strongly entrenched that Marshal Stalin could not count on shaking the Franco regime by Communist [illegible].

[illegible] Hedin's Birthday Feted

[illegible]

STOCKHOLM, February 20.—The [illegible] birthday of Sven Hedin, famous Swedish explorer, was observed yesterday in an impressive ceremony held here. Greetings, congratulations and gifts were sent not only from Sweden but also from abroad and particularly from Germany. Congratulatory telegrams were likewise received from the King of Sweden and the Crown Prince. Addresses were delivered by the Swedish participators of the Asia expeditions led by Hedin.

Amusement Centers Closing at Midnight In U.S. to Save Fuel

Domei

LISBON, February 20. — In order to save coal and electric power, a ban is to be put on after-midnight entertainment in the United States, declared James Byrnes, Chairman of the U.S. War Mobilization Board, according to a dispatch from Washington. All places of entertainment such as night clubs, sport arenas, theaters, dancing halls, road houses, saloons, and bars will close at midnight beginning on February 26. Byrnes said, "The nation's transport facilities should not be used for joy rides in war time and people employed in places of entertainment could be put to more useful work in war industry plants."

CHUNGKING MUST UNIFY, DEMOCRATIZE REGIONS

Situation Is Hopeless Unless This Condition Achieved, Says Soviet Critic

Domei

MOSCOW, February 19.—Only by unifying the regions under its authority can Chungking hope to give the military situation surrounding it a new turn, stressed Cleinov, Soviet commentator known for his writings on China, in yesterday's issue of the Izvestia.

His article in substance, follows:

The various campaigns which are being conducted by the Japanese Forces in South China have come to assume an exceedingly high importance from the strategic point of view in face of the war situation in the Pacific and the development of the war in the Philippine Islands.

The object of the Japanese campaigns is first, the complete control of the railway crossing China from one end to the other.

Under these circumstances Chungking may be said to have a specially weighty function to perform. Though there has been a change made in the Chungking Government and in the command of the Chungking army, no success has yet been achieved in the performance of this special function.

There is one thing on which the patriots of China and the various countries friendly to China are in agreement—that is, China must bring to an end the political crisis at home, realize the unity of the country as a State, and achieve the democratization of the country.

Without a doubt, nothing short of the achievement of such a condition will give the military situation surrounding Chungking a new turn.

CHURCHILL MAKING REPORT

To Address House of Commons on Crimea Conference

Domei

LISBON, February 20.—Prime Minister Winston Churchill will probably speak in the House of Commons on February 27 for two hours when the Crimea Conference at Yalta will be discussed, according to Reuter.

While Churchill will be the main speaker on the first day, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden will present the Government's viewpoint on the second day of this debate, the report said, adding that Churchill who appeared in the House of Commons today for the first time since his return from Crimea declared that in his opinion affairs abroad were rather smooth.

Salvador President Named

Domei

LISBON, February 20.—General Dastenedo Castro has been proclaimed by the National Assembly of El Salvador as the new constitutional President of the Republic of El Salvador, according to a dispatch from San Salvador. Castro, who has been victorious during the elections held lately, will take over the Government from provisional President General Osmin Aguirre on March 1, the dispatch added.

U.S. Aid to Chiang Bared

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 20.—During the present year, America will be able to send a monthly supply of 100,000 tons to Chungking by the land and air routes from India. Representative Joseph Mansfield of Texas, special representative, of President Roosevelt, recently declared in the House of Representatives. Mansfield disclosed in his statement that within two months, a minimum of 25,000 tons of supplies, comprising 13,000 tons of oil and 12,000 tons of other supplies, would be sent to Chungking by the Ledo Route alone, according to a New York dispatch to the News Chronicle, London.

U.S. LEND-LEASE SUPPLIES TO ANTI-AXIS DISCLOSED

Crowley Claims Over $25 Billion Worth of Goods Sent During End of 1944

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 20.—The United States supplied nearly $25,500,000,000 of Lend-Lease services to the anti-Axis nations during the end of last year, Leo Crowley, Director of the U.S. Foreign Economic Administration, disclosed today, according to a Washington dispatch.

He said that 98 per cent of the Lend-Lease assistance went to Britain, the Soviet Union, Chungking and the French Provisional Government. He also declared that 58 per cent of all goods sent abroad in the Pacific and European war fronts consisted of munitions, and that almost $3,000,000,000 worth of Lend-Lease shipment went to the Pacific and East Asia in the war against Japan.

The shipment of East Asia and Pacific, he said, included 6,500 planes, 2,500 of them now being used against the Japanese. Moreover he revealed that more than half of the $3,000,000,000 worth of supplies went to Chungking and India and said that Chungking can look forward to steadily increasing supplies.

Huge Casualties Bared

Domei

LISBON, February 20.—Together with a report of Lend-Lease deliveries, the losses of the anti-Axis were also revealed by President Franklin Roosevelt to Congress, according to a Reuter report.

It was disclosed that 5,300,000 anti-Axis soldeirs were killed. Chungking had lost millions of civilians and soldiers according to the report. It also stated that the three branches of the British armed forces up to December 1944 had lost 625,000 men, not including the 400,000 soldiers of the Dominions, India and the colonial troops. This figure does not include the 50,000 and more of civilians who lost their lives on account of the air war, it added.

It is significant that Roosevelt's Lend-Lease report considers these losses in soldiers as a partial reciprocity for the supplies of material.

FALSE REPORT REFUTED

German-Argentine Relations Commented on in Berlin

Domei

BERLIN, February 20.—Reports about Argentina's declaration of war on Germany lack any foundation whatever, the Wilhelmstrasse spokesman declared today. He did not discuss the present controversy about the German-Argentine diplomatic exchange, merely stating that the matter would be cleared up through diplomatic channels.

The declarations of war on Germany by smaller Central and South American countries have had no reaction in Berlin, he continued. The German papers have not even reported these declarations of war. But it is astonishing that these declarations of war have called forth comments among those for whom the South American countries have declared war.

Facts Worth Noting

Canadian Government

William L. Mackenzie King—Prime Min.
Colin W. G. Gibson—Air Minister
Lt. Gen. Andrew MacNaughton—National Defense Minister
Joseph Thorson—National War Services Minister
Humphrey Mitchell—Labor Minister
Joseph E. Michaud—Transport Minister
James A. MacKinnon—Trade and Commerce Minister
Angus L. MacDonald—Naval Affairs Min.
James L. Ilsley—Finance Minister
Clarence D. Howe—Munitions and Supply Minister
James G. Gardiner—Agriculture Min.
Pierre F. Casgrain—Secretary of State (Home Affairs)
Ernest Bertrand—Minister of Fisheries
William Pate—Mulock—Postmaster-General
Louis Saint-Laurent—Attorney-General and Justice Minister
Thomas A. Crerar—Minister of Mines and Resources
Ian A. Mackenzie—Minister of Pensions and National Health
P. J. A. Cardin—Public Works Minister
Vincent Massey—High Commissioner in Britain
J. D. Kearney—High Commissioner in Eire
Charles J. Burchell—High Commissioner in Newfoundland
Dr. Walter H. Riddell—High Commissioner in New Zealand
T. C. Davis—High Commissioner in Australia
Dr. Henry Laureys—High Commissioner in South Africa
Lesley Pearson—Ambassador to U.S.
George P. Vanier—Ambassador to Paris
Maj. Gen. Victor W. Odlum—Minister to Chungking
Leighton McCarthy—Minister to U.S.
L. Dana Wilgress—Minister to Moscow
Warwick Chipman—Minister to Chile
Jean Desy—Minister to Brazil
William F. A. Turgeon—Minister to Argentina

U.S. Army Accepting Men With Red Views To Win Soviet Favor

Domei

LISBON, February 19.—The United States is again courting Soviet favor. Today's issue of the Chicago Tribune, a vernacular of isolationist tendency, says that recently the War Department has issued orders to the quarters concerned that there should be no unjust discrimination made in recruiting men for army service because of the individual's communistic views with regard to social problems, as relayed by a Chicago dispatch. Hitherto the American army authorities had rigidly prohibited the admission of those belonging to the communist party or those of communist principles into the ranks of officers or into any part of the 19 departments dealing with secret duties.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

February 20

Our attack against the enemy Gran bridgehead made good progress while the stubborn Soviet breakthrough attempts on the road east of Altsohl were frustrated. In the fighting sectors of Schwarzwasser, north of Ratibor and south of Breslau the Soviets, owing to our defensive successes in the past few days, attacked with minor forces only and they were repulsed everywhere. The garrison of Breslau warded off the enemy attacks from the southwest and east. In the course of stubborn fighting in the Lauban, Sorau and Guben areas the enemy gained ground in several sectors.

Between Pyritz and Kallies in southern Pomerania the Soviets were thrown back in fluctuating fighting and here 26 Soviet tanks were destroyed. Our troops offered embittered resistance against the enemy pushing north in the Tuchel Heath and west of the Vistula while the garrison of Graudenz repulsed violent attacks.

In the defensive battle for East Prussia, our divisions achieved a new defensive success against the enemy onrushing with strong forces and destroyed 64 tanks. In Samland west of Koenigsberg heavy offensive fighting flared up in which our naval forces likewise took part with telling success.

In Courland, Soviet breakthrough attempts northwest of Dobeln collapsed also yesterday. The activity of strong fighter and battleplane formations against the enemy troops, tank columns and supply bases caused severe casualties among the Soviets and the loss of numerous tanks, guns and vehicles. In aerial combats and by flak 46 Soviet planes were shot down.

In the heavy fighting for Elbing, Lieutenant General Mauss, Commander of the 7th Tank Division, was decorated with the Swords and Oak Leaves to the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross. During the battle at Elbing toward the west the commander, with a machine-gun at the head of his division, encouraged his soldiers by his example to achieve unique feats.

After five hours of strong artillery fire, the Canadian 1st Army yesterday afternoon continued its strong attacks south of the lower Rhine but the attacks were foiled by our artillery fire. In the Goch sector the enemy was halted in the depth of our main fighting line. The strong pressure of the American 3rd Army against the flanks of our front salient on the northern Luxemburg border continues and in heavy defensive fighting our troops held their own against the enemy onrush and prevented an enemy breakthrough in our main fighting field after insignificant loss of ground. The American attacks in the Remich sector which have been going on for several weeks increased in violence and extension.

In Saarlautern our troops smashed enemy thrusts and captured prisoners. In the Forbach sector the enemy deployments were effectively shelled by our artillery. Toward the east, the heights of Spichern and individual localities north of Saargemuend form the focal points of renewed enemy attacks.

The Americans, attacking north and east of St. Nazaire, were repelled by our garrison in hand to hand fighting or in counterthrust. While our casualties were slight the enemy suffered considerable losses.

East of Monte Cimone in central Italy, the enemy made numerous local thrusts all day long without achieving a success worth mentioning.

Anglo-American bomber formations attacked several places in Westphalia among them the town of Wesel on the lower Rhine. In the southeast, Vienna and Graz were the main targets of the enemy terror planes while during the night British attacks were directed against Erfurt and several places in the Saxonian area.

The retaliation fire on London continues with but short interruptions.

Trade Union Meet Adjourns

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 18.—The World Trade Union Conference in London which worked sluggishly through an atmosphere of doubt and uncertainty adjourned today after unanimously approving the American delegate Sidney Hillman's proposal for the creation of a new world labor organization, according to a London dispatch.

The delegates assigned several pending controversial issues to a special continuation committee of 40-odd members appointed to carry on the work with authority to take steps necessary to attain labor unity. They also agreed to call another conference before the year's end.

NIPPON BOMBERS SMASH ENEMY GUNS AT MYINMU

Direct Hits Scored on 5, Artillery Positions—14 Miri Raiders Blasted

Domei

BURMA FRONTLINE BASE, February 20.—Japanese Bomber Units attacked enemy frontline positions near Myinmu on the banks of the Irrawaddy River in the early morning of February 19 and scored direct hits on five enemy artillery positions.

On the forenoon of the same day the Japanese Fighter Unit exchanged fire with a group of enemy Spitfires and P-27's. Two enemy planes were downed and four damaged. One Japanese plane has not yet returned.

Pakkoku Enemy Blasted

Domei

BURMA FRONTLINE BASE, February 19.—Picked Fighter Units of the Japanese Air Forces in Burma attacked the enemy forces in the vicinity of Pakkoku at dusk February 17. Four armored cars were set ablaze, 60 blasted, and one bridge demolished. Enemy pillboxes were also attacked.

In aerial combats with enemy planes attempting to intercept, the Japanese planes shot down one small-sized transport plane and one P-38. One P-38 was damaged.

All the Japanese planes returned safely.

14 Borneo Raiders Blasted

Domei

NORTH BORNEO, February 20.—Japanese Air Defense Forces shot down eight (four unascertained) and damaged six out of the 36 enemy B-24 planes that penetrated into the Miri area on February 17.

Fourteen P-38's raided the Api area on February 18 but no damage was caused to our side.

Kuala Lumpur Attacked

Domei

XX BASE, February 20.—About 50 B-29's coming from the Calcutta base in several waves, blindly bombed the homes of native inhabitants in the vicinity of Kuala Lumpur at 11:50 a.m. on February 19, according to the announcement of the headquarters of the Japanese Forces here. Ground fire repulsed the enemy raiders by about 1 p.m.

The native inhabitants here calmly carried out air defense activities and have been roused to greater fervor to crush to the enemy.

REICH FINANCES REVIEWED

Funk Declares Currency Policy Assures Stability

Domei

BERLIN, February 18.—The present condition of German currency and credits was discussed by Dr. Walter Funk, Reich Minister of Economics and President of the Reichbank, at a general business meeting of the Reichsbank. The currency circulation, Dr. Funk said, increased last year from 16,001,000,000 marks to 53,001,000,000 marks. This was accompanied by increasing bank revenues and savings bank accounts.

The war in the air and the war on German soil had led to a greater desire for liquidity and the credit institutes had to meet this desire, he stated while the government had increasingly resorted to the Reichbank last year. He revealed that the floating debts had increased rapidly as compared with the funded debt and last year a shift in financing the war from tax revenues to credits had become noticeable.

The tax revenues, Dr. Funk further stressed, had not decreased but the Reich expenditures had increased. A tax increase was predicted by Dr. Funk with the words "at some time we shall have to adopt measures for an increase of the Reich revenues in order to maintain the confidence in our currency and in the security of our savings banks deposits." "We have been able," Dr. Funk pointed out "to organize our economic and currency policy in such a way that it can withstand all burdens of peace and war. This fact fills us with the firm confidence that we shall also in future be able to protect our currency and to guarantee to the German people the stability of all economic, social and cultural values together with a stable currency."

Bordeaux Harbor Useless

Domei

BERNE, February 20.—During the last war, the American army was able to make great use of the French harbor of Bordeaux, reports the Gazette de Lausanne. Today, however, it said that Bordeaux "is a body without soul," for the entire shipping on the Gironde was crippled by the German garrisons at Verdon and Royan which the De Gaullist troops were unable to remove. As the result, the paper stated that one of the greatest and most important supply harbors for the anti-Axis could not be used today.

11 Enemy Warships Sunk by Luftwaffe In Murmansk Area

Domei

BERLIN, February 20.—Seven enemy freighters totaling 57,000 tons as well as two light cruisers and two destroyers were sunk by German torpedo-carrying planes on Tuesday forenoon when they attacked a strong anti-Axis convoy en route to Murmansk, it was disclosed by the German High Command today.

MEDITERRANEAN DEFENSE IMPORTANT TO BRITAIN

Spanish Press Urges Joint Defense Understanding Against Soviet Advance

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 18.—Concerning the Spanish Government's approach to Britain for an understanding providing for joint defense against Soviet advance to the Mediterranean, the Spanish press strongly criticizes the anti-Spanish views recently expressed by British newspapers. For instance, the El Espanol in its editorial writes:

"Churchill himself fully realizes the importance of Spain with regard to the Mediterranean question, but some of the British press, influenced by the intrigue of certain Spanish exiles, have been attacking the Franco regime. Spain will firmly fight such hostility, risking her independence and honor.

"To meet the Soviet advance to the Mediterranean, which Britain regards as her life line, the British Government has no alternative but to set up a joint defense front by forming an alliance with Spain, which holds a decisive position on the Mediterranean and, further, follows a policy of anti-Communism. Without cooperating with Spain, the British plan of a Western European bloc or of a Mediterranean league is inconceivable. In short, British-Spanish cooperation would be the great pillar supporting the peace of Europe and the control of the Mediterranean, and thus Britain should at this moment fully realize the position of Spain."

TO SEIZE ESTATES IN ITALY

Other Radical Steps Also Decided By Labor Meet At Naples

Confiscation of the lands possessed by great landlords and the protection of landed farmers were among the important decisions made at the first general meeting of the Italian Labor Federation held at Naples for five days from April 28 with the attendance of 475 representatives of the various provinces under Anglo-American occupation, the Labor Vice-Minister of the Bonomi regime and representatives of the American and British Army of Occupation.

Other items decided on at the conference included:

1. Recognition of the same Labor Federation as a democratic and organic union of various factions with different tendencies.
2. Dissolution of contracts made by various labor unions under Fascist rule and establishment of the rights of new labor organizations.
3. Socialization of individual, monopolistic enterprises and important industries.
4. Recognition of superior rights of laborers as against employers.
5. Guarantee of minimum living cost for unemployed workers and their families.
6. Establishment of labor insurance.

These ideas have been secretly prepared by extreme Leftists from the time of Fascist administration, and furnish an illuminating index to the course which future Italian society will follow.

UNRRA Sending Medical Goods

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 20.—The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration will dispatch only 27 tons of medical supplies to Chungking in the first material aid to that country, according to a Washington report. It said that Chungking demanded a much higher figure but officials said that this was beyond the amount possible at this time by the UNRRA to fulfill Chungking's request.

Reich Officers Decorated

Domei

BERLIN, February 18.—General Hasso von Manteuffel, Commander-in-Chief of the Panzer Army, was awarded by the Fuehrer the Oak Leaves with Swords and Diamonds to the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross. He is thus the 24th officer of the German armed forces to receive this highest German war decoration. Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt, Commander in the Western Front, was awarded the Oak Leaves with Swords to the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross.

'LIBERATED FRANCE' FACES SERIOUS ECONOMIC CRISIS

Situation Threatens Unrest, Unless Immediate Help Is Available, Reuters Reports

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 19.—France is at present confronted with increasing economic difficulties which, unless immediate help is available, threatens to cause serious unrest, Reuters' special correspondent reports from Paris, adding that this help depends to a large extent on the Allied military authorities. The report continues:

"The French authorities consequently are lacking transport means and hitherto did not succeed in transporting to the centers of consumption the minimal oil and petrol supplies placed at the disposal of France by Washington and London.

"Now, six months after the liberation, the French people are hungrier and have more to suffer from the cold than at any time during the German occupation. It is not only the present situation which worries the French authorities; the outlook for the future is still more serious.

"This rich agricultural country is in imminent danger. The most catastrophic grain shortage will prevail next autumn. Only very quick help can eliminate the danger; there are only a few days left, since France has exactly three weeks' time to prepare the soil in the Paris basin, the most important grain growing district in France.

"This crisis is partly due to the adverse weather conditions and partly to the exclusive use of rolling stock by the Allied military authorities."

FRANCE TO ATTEND PARLEY

Taking Part in World Security Meeting in San Francisco

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 20.—French Provisional Government officials declared that France definitely plans to participate in the United Nations World Security Conference at San Francisco on April 25. They say that there has never been any question about France's participation. The reply was merely being delayed pending a full study of the decisions reached at the Crimea Conference, they stated.

Aussie Delegates Named

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 20.—Australian delegates to the forthcoming United Nations World Security Conference to be held in San Francisco on April 25 were announced today by Prime Minister John Curtin, according to a Canberra report.

The delegates will include Francis M. Forde, Minister of the Army, and Dr. Herbert V. Evatt, Minister of External Affairs. Forde said that the delegation will represent various organizations in Australia including representatives of civil aviation, industry, commerce and culture.

Wants Red Cabinet Created

Domei

GENEVA, February 20.—Maurice Thorez, Secretary-General of the French Communist Party in a speech in Toulouse today declared that the French Communist Party should form a French Cabinet, adding that the Communists were ready as soon as the French people gave them authorization.

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STETTINIUS IN MEXICO CITY

Attending Pan-American Foreign Secretaries' Conference

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 20.—Edward Stettinius, U.S. Secretary of State, arrived in Mexico City today from Brazil where he will head the United States delegation to the Pan-American Foreign Secretaries' Conference which will be convened in Mexico City tomorrow, according to a dispatch from that city.

It was also reported that Nelson Rockefeller, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, and eight Latin American ambassadors to the United States have also arrived in Mexico City.

The report said that delegates from the other American countries are anxious to ascertain from Stettinius the United States latest decision taken toward Argentina.

Among many of the representatives now in Mexico City for the conference, there seems to be a spirit of temptation to bring about an open discussion of general principles on which all American nations can jointly base their recognition of any revolutionary governments.

CORDON TIGHTENED IN HUNT

Nation-Wide Round Up of Canadian Deserters Continues

Domei

GENEVA, February 20.—"Great scalp-hunt in the Western Hemisphere" so the French-Canadian paper La Presse calls the attempts to round up all Canadian deserters. For this chase not only the military police force and the state police but also police corps, supporting the individual provincial governments are being employed. They are scouring town and country, the paper says, and neither the most luxurious hotel nor the most dingy boarding house has escaped their attention. Police patrols are everywhere stopping and examining the papers of uniformed men while all border crossings are being sharply watched the paper further states.

The Ottawa Government has issued orders to let only such Canadians enter the United States, who are in possession of special identification papers, issued by the mobilization authorities it says. Notifications in the newspapers prompting the deserters to return are regularly being published.

Wallace's Nomination Urged

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 20.—Confirmation on March 1 of the nomination of Henry A. Wallace as the new Secretary of Commerce replacing his predecessor Jesse Jones was urged today by Senator Alben Barkley, Kentucky Democrat, despite Republican opposition, says a Washington report.

Rome Journals Suspended

Domei

ZURICH, February 20.—Six of the seven newspapers, published in Rome since the beginning of 1945 had to suspend publication again on account of paper shortage, according to a Rome report. A radio announcement disclosed that the Italian press commission withdrew the publication permits for these newspapers. At the same time, the paper allotments for the Rome press were cut again by another 33 per cent.

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Hainan Island: Hoihow, [illegible], Kachek, Hokurei. South Sea Islands: Truk, Palau. Philippine Islands: Manila, Davao, Cebu, [illegible], Pacolod, Legaspi, Iloilo. Malai: [illegible]. Djawa: Soerabaya, Semarang, Djakarta. Lesser Sunda: Singaradja, Denpassar. Borneo: Banjermasin, Balik-Papan, Pontianak, Tarakan, Samarinda. Celebes: Macassar, Menado. Ceram: Amboina. [illegible] Koepang. New Britain Island: [illegible]. New Guinea: Manokwari. Others: Hongkong. [illegible]
Closed: Bombay, London, New York.

INDONESIANS ARE GRANTED GREATER POLITICAL SCOPE

Japanese Naval Administration Promulgates Decrees to Prepare Way for Independence

Domei

MACASSAR, February 19.—With the object of bringing about an early realization of the Japanese Government's pledge to grant independence to the East Indies, the Japanese Naval Administration for Celebes, South Borneo, and Lesser Sundas, promulgated yesterday three decrees, expanding the scope of political participation by the native inhabitants, to be effective immediately. These decrees stipulate, firstly, revision of the Provisional Provincial Assembly Decree; secondly, revision of the Provisional Municipal Assembly Decree; and, thirdly, special appointment to office of native inhabitants.

A statement, explaining the purpose and the main features of these three decrees was also issued by the Naval Administration. The statement declared that the shortest road for consummating the training requisite for an independent people of East Asia is to put heart and soul into fighting this war. Continuing, the statement said that after careful consideration the Japanese Naval Administration decided to expand the scope of political participation by native inhabitants, preparatory to future independence; that this expansion of the scope of political participation will take the following three forms:

Firstly, the membership of the Provincial Assembly will be doubled to 30 from the present 15 and the qualifications for membership, moderated;

Secondly, in view of the inadvisability of holding popular elections of Municipal Assemblymen under existing wartime conditions, the existing decree has been revised to permit appointment of commissioned Assemblymen to fill seats which would have been held by popularly elected members; in substance, the number of Municipal Assemblymen has been doubled and their qualifications, moderated;

Thirdly, provision has been made for special appointment of native inhabitants to posts in the Youth Association, Women's Association, and other social, religious and enlightenment associations; thus those who were hitherto ineligible have been made eligible by special appointment.

VETERAN NEWSMAN DEAD

Mitsunaga, Former Nippon Dempo Head, Succumbs on Monday

Hoshiro Mitsunaga, member of the House of Peers and founder of the Nippon Dempo News Agency, died from illness at his Kamimeguro home Monday. The late Mr. Mitsunaga was 80 years old. He founded the famous news agency in 1910 and was active as its head for many years. Later, he was recommended for the post of director-in-chief of the now defunct Japan Press Society. In 1933 he was appointed member of the House of Peers by Imperial nomination. Mr. Mitsunaga retired from the presidency of Nippon Dempo in 1940, but had remained as its adviser, as well as for the Domei News Agency. His great contributions to the progress of the country's news service were outstanding.

Posthumously Promoted

Surgeon Major General Kan Matsumura under date of February 20 was posthumously promoted to surgeon lieutenant general, it was announced by the War Ministry the same day. It was also announced that Colonels Isao Kadowaki, Shichizo Hiranuma and Jun Okochi were posthumously promoted to major general each. Surgeon Colonel Masao Okuyama, too, was similarly promoted to surgeon major general. All of these ranking officers were either killed in action or died of illness on the front.

Sino-Nippon Body Formed

Domei

SHANGHAI, February 20.—The Sino-Japanese Young Men's Association, formed by outstanding Chinese and Japanese youths residing in Shanghai was inaugurated with due ceremony here on February 17. The organization aims to give spiritual training to these young men, to improve their physique so that they will become qualified as leaders of various Greater East Asiatic nations as well as to conduct joint researches to promote the cultures of Japan and China.

Enshrinement Rites Held

Domei

HONGKONG, February 20.—Enshrinement ceremony at the temporary sanctuary of the Hongkong Shrine erected by the joint labor service of the local military men, officials and civilians was held early in the morning of February 18.

B-29 Downed by Ramming Action Monday Crashes to Its Doom in Center of Tokyo

The charred and twisted remains of a B-29 that raided Tokyo on February 19 lay exposed in all its ugliness at 5-chome, Sendagaya, Shibuya-ku, says an article in the Mainichi. This was the first B-29 to fall within the limits of Tokyo city and was downed by a daring ramming attack.

At about 2:40 p.m. that day, an enemy formation penetrated into the metropolitan skies from the northwest. The enemy formation were being challenged by the Japanese Air Corps and at the same time subjected to heavy barrage of AA firing. One B-29, completely surrounded by a barrage of AA fire, lagged behind the formation. Trailing white smoke, it swung slightly and then commenced a slow downward plunge. Just over the western section of Shinjuku, the enemy plane suddenly changed into a rapid nose dive and plunged with a terrific noise into Numbers 888 and 889 at 5-chome Sendagaya. Instantaneously, with a loud explosion, the gasoline caught fire and tongues of flames leaped upward.

The huge body was smashed and twisted into an unrecognizable mass. A big hole had been bored in the lane between the two house numbers. Pieces of flesh flew from where the crew apparently had been seated and scattered in the vicinity. Here was the end of the enemy who dared to violate the sanctity of the Japanese territory.

The neighboring fire defense corps tackled their jobs resolutely as they stepped over the star-marked wing of the B-29 to fight the fire. Students from Waseda and Senshu Universities who had taken refuge in the nearby air raid shelters were soon on the spot with buckets in hand. The faces of those who had lost their homes were bright, however, as they joined the activities of the fire fighting corps for they knew that their homes had gone up in flames in a gallant grapple with the burning enemy plane.

U.S., CHUNGKING PREPARE CONTINENTAL OFFENSIVE

Concentrate Troops, Arms at Kunming; Aim to Cut Off Japan From South

Domei

CANTON, February 20.—The anti-Japanese resistance activity on the China Continent, centering around joint strategic operations by the Chungking army and the American air forces, is recently showing added vigor. Particularly the American land forces and the Chungking army comprising about 90 divisions are believed to be ready to attempt a grand southwestern general offensive. The American ground units and the Americanized Chungking army, said to be concentrated in the neighborhood of Kunming, are the main forces to be used in this proposed southwestern general offensive.

The southwestern offensive, loudly publicized by the enemy, is in fact an operation for the United States forces that have advanced westward to the Pacific to build bridgeheads on the coast of China. It aims to completely separate the mainland of Japan from the Southern Regions, and also to fight a decisive battle on land by approaching the Japanese mainland from the continent, in coordination with decisive sea battles.

The advance of the American land forces to the China Continent has been carried out gradually since about June last year, on the whole according to the above mentioned basic plan. Since the end of June, task units equipped with scientific arms have been made ready at Chungking. One regiment of heavy artillery with 10 and 7 c.m. guns as the main arms, as well as tank units and anti-tank gun corps, have been transported by super transport planes. Also glider units, paratroops, communication corps and other units have steadily concentrated at Kunming. The total strength of these units is estimated at more than 30,000 at present, and they are now detailed to the southwestern front, while a portion has been sent to Sian with the object of advancing to the North China front.

Further, the expeditionary forces to Burma and a portion of the Chungking troops in India, which belong to the so-called Americanized Chungking army, are said to have been transferred to the neighborhood of Kunming. Since January last year many American military officers have been detailed to the Chungking troops at various points to teach American strategy and communication technique. The American-style training of the Chungking army is carried out on the largest scale in northern Burma and India. Particularly the scientific education of Chungking army officers is undertaken in India, the Chungking Army Aviation School having also been moved there. From India is supplied gasoline, bombs and fighter planes. Thus, the Chungking army is being rapidly improved and reorganized.

Trying to Advance Base
By J. TSUTSUMI
Of the Military Press Corps

CONTINENTAL BASE, February 19.—Latest indications are that following frantic endeavors to rebuild its equipment and commissary in the rear ever since the reduction of the air bases in southwestern China by the Japanese Forces, the United States air force in China is attempting to advance its base northward.

Of late, enemy air attacks from Hsihkiang, in Hunan Province and Laohokow in Hupei Province which constitute the foremost enemy bases at present have remarkably intensified. Now that it has lost the potentiality to launch counter-attacks against the air bases in Central and South China which the Japanese have occupied, the American air force is apparently attempting to move northward to capture the localities nearest the Japanese mainland by bee-line and thus to gain advance bases from which to support the activities of the B-29's operating from the Chengtu airfield group.

This move deserves close attention in that it forebodes intensified bombing raids on Japan in concert with the enemy counterattacks from the Pacific.

GOVERNORS FOR SHANTUNG, HOPEI PROVINCES NAMED

New Mayors for Peking and Tientsin Also Appointed by N. China Commission

Domei

PEKING, February 20.—The North China Political Affairs Commission appointed Jung Chin, a member of the North China Military Committee, as the Governor of Hopei Province, and Yang Yu-hsun, as the Governor of Shantung Province, it was announced by the Board of Information today.

At the same time, Hsu Hsiu-chieh, Vice-President of the North China Telephone and Telegraph Company, was appointed Mayor of Peking and Chou Tien-ping, President of the North China Cotton Cultivation Development Society, as Mayor of Tientsin.

Su Tai-jen Given Post

Domei

NANKING, February 19.—With the assumption of chairmanship of the North China Political Affairs Commission by Wang Yin-tai, the National Government here has announced a new line-up of the members under the new chairman. Su Tai-jen has been appointed Director-General of the General Affairs Board concurrently holding the directorship of the Interior Department. Several prominent men in North China political circles also have been appointed to assume important posts in the Commission.

France Using Paper Diapers

Domei

LISBON, February 17.—French mothers are wrapping their babies in paper diapers due to the serious economic depression which has set in throughout "liberated" France, according to reports reaching here. British authorities are also reported to be meeting repeatedly with pressing French leaders to overcome the difficulties and sufferings put on the French people due to the widespread economic depression. Shortage of wearing apparel and foodstuff are said to be especially serious.

Army Appointments Bared

Major General Ryuji Koike has been appointed Director of the General Affairs Department of Military Education and Major General Kyuzo Kodama named Principal of the Sendai Army Aviation School, the War Ministry announced on Tuesday. Simultaneously, the War Ministry announced the following appointments: Colonel Yatsuji Nagai as Chief of the Military Affairs Section of the Military Affairs Bureau, Colonel Yozo Miyama as Adjutant to the War Ministry, Colonel Tsunahiko Yasue as Commander of the Oita Regimental District, and Colonel Yoshimasa Kamura as Director of the Heijo Military Affairs Department.

Obituary

Naota Kumagaya, legal counsel and former Diet member, died of illness at his Zushi home on Sunday. He was 80 years old. Mr. Kumagaya was returned to the Diet nine times and once was Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Justice.

Shinkichi Okamura, 41, director of the Ceyama Nickel Company, passed away from cerebral apoplexy on Monday at his Setagaya home.

Dr. Jutaro Kawai, 81, professor emeritus of Kyoto Imperial University, passed away from a prolonged illness on Sunday at his Kyoto home.

STEADY PLANE SUPPLY FROM HOMELAND VITAL

Would Mitigate Loss of Heroic Lives, Says Scribe in Stirring Appeal

This is the concluding instalment of Mr. Onoda's article exhorting every member of the Japanese nation to exert his utmost in overcoming the present critical situation. Mr. Onoda is a member of the Military Press Corps who returned recently from the Philippine battlefront.

(Continued From Monday)

"The burning enthusiasm and sincerity of their men were reflected in Vice-Admirals Shigeru Fukutome and Takijiro Onishi, Commanders of the Naval Land-Based Air Force in the Philippine sector. The two Commanders resolved to carry out body-crashing tactics against enemy aircraft carriers. Entrusted with the lives of their subordinates, they personally visited the headquarters of the fighting air squadron one night. No words are adequate to describe the feelings of the two Commanders who fully understood the emotions of their subordinates. If we had had a sufficient number of planes, we would not have had to adopt such special attacking tactics and we would not have had to sacrifice the lives of our young airmen with their promising future.

"Commander Y, Deputy-Commander N were making cautious deliberations in order to avoid any miscarriage of their mission. A tall, handsome officer suddenly appeared before them. It was 24-year-old Captain Yukio Seki, who was both trusted and loved by the members of his Unit.

"The members of the special attack corps were selected by Captain Seki from among the members of his Unit. Those who were not selected envied their lucky comrades. The commander boarded the fighter plane piloted by Flight Commander N. Unfortunately, later he broke his left leg in two places when his plane was forced to land due to an accident. In spite of his injury, however, he immediately visited the headquarters of Commanders Fukutome and Onishi to report the fact that the special attack corps had been organized. Afterwards he said: 'What does a broken leg or two matter? Our men are offering their lives for their country. Captain Seki was a splendid man. Such a character as his is not to be found everywhere. Japan must win at all cost.'

"Although suffering from a fever of 40 degrees and with his body supported by crutches, Commander Y saw the members of the special attack corps off on their last flight. Deputy-Commander P ate and slept with the members of the Corps at the commanding base under a roof of palm leaves and looked after them like a kind mother.

"Flight Commander N proceeded to the central part of the Philippines where he took over the command of the local special attack corps in order to prepare for the enemy who was heading toward Leyte Island. He organized the Seibu Unit among the local members. Fully understanding the determination of their commander, and under the strictest discipline, the members of the special attack corps made sleepless efforts to cope with the demands of the military operations. It was not enough for them to merely take off on their last flight and to die. It must have been more difficult than the hardships of life to select a spot to die which would make their death worthwhile. It goes without saying that their supreme loyalty, which fully displayed the traditions of the Japanese Navy in the midst of a difficult situation, has influenced the entire Japanese Fighting Forces.

"I have personally witnessed the heroic deaths of our courageous young men after arriving at the Philippine front. Their death is directly linked with the security of our nation and is a sacrifice made to effect a change in the war situation. All these men crashed themselves bodily against the enemy after sending out a final message, from above the enemy warships and transports to the following effect: Long live our Emperor! We are about to plunge into the enemy! They desired neither fame nor position. Since a long time ago they had severed all home ties. Nothing existed for them except their country.

"Their desire was only to offer their lives as subjects of our Emperor in order to recover the war situation. These youths were members of the Shinpu Special Attack Corps. Their determination has changed into one of seeking certain death. Who is not deeply impressed, and who does not feel his determination growing stronger upon hearing of the courageous undertakings of the Shinpu Special Attack Corps begun by the Shikishima Unit?

"The members of the Shikishima Unit, under the command of Captain Seki, had left their base three times on an attack from which they were determined not to return alive. The first flight on October 21, and the second one on the 24th, did not accomplish its mission because of bad weather conditions which compelled the Unit to return after having sighted the enemy.

"Captain Seki often used to say that he wished the cruising range of the planes was a little longer. Flight Sergeant Major Hiroyoshi Nishizawa, of Nagano Prefecture became Commander of the escorting planes from the second attack on the 24th.

"Sergeant Major Nishizawa had many flying hours to his credit. He had participated in the sea battles off Guadalcanal, in the Central Pacific and the Solomons, and had shot down more than 150 enemy planes. He was a shining light of the Japanese Air Force and had been awarded a citation and a dagger by the Commander of the Japanese Air Force in the Rabaul sector. He had arrived on the Philippine front and joined this fighter plane unit the day before the attack. Captain Seki embraced Flight Sergeant Major Nishizawa when the latter became Commander of the planes escorting the Shikishima Unit and told him that now he would be able to fight at will and to execute his mission thoroughly.

"On October 25, as commander of the escorting planes, Flight Sergeant Major Nishizawa carefully guarded the five pilots of the Shikishima Unit and enabled them to plunge into the enemy task force in the seas off Suluan Island. The escorting planes repulsed the attack of 50 to 60 enemy Grumman fighters, downed two of them and ascertained the results achieved by the five heroic pilots.

"On returning to his base in the central part of the Philippines, Flight Sergeant Major Nishizawa made his report on the results achieved by the Shikishima Unit. The report of these results served to consolidate still more the conviction of victory among other members of the Shinpu Special Attack Corps.

"The words 'one plane scored a crash', which have no comparison in the world, are explained in the following report written by Flight Sergeant Major Nishizawa:

'Movements of the Shikishima Unit.'

"'Departed skies over the base. Changed course at a certain altitude 29 nautical miles from the base. Enemy not yet sighted. Altitude over scheduled route 3,000 to 4,000 meters. Thirty Grumman fighter planes sighted, also four to five battleships, over 10 cruisers and 30 destroyers east of the route. Twenty-five Grumman F6F's over enemy warships. Part of enemy force seen through cloud-drifts on account of squall. Lower stratum of clouds at 500 meters. Volume of clouds from five to seven meters. Upper stratum of clouds from 400 to 500 meters. Route changed to north and right of the enemy. Route not constant (in order to deceive enemy). Four enemy aircraft carriers, two cruisers and four destroyers sighted. Location 85 degrees at about 90 nautical miles. Eastward route. Twenty F6F's and 10 SBC deck-based bombers over enemy ships. Following results attained through plunging attacks:

"'Two planes crashed into one aircraft carrier and sank it. One plane crashed into an aircraft carrier, setting it afire and incapable of moving. One plane crashed into one light cruiser and sank it. Two F6F's shot down. Our losses Five attacking planes failed to return; Pilot Sugakawa killed by enemy anti-aircraft fire.'

"Three planes which escorted the Shikishima Unit returned to their base in the central part of the Philippines shortly before noon that day. The pilots of these planes, however, later died in action when they encountered enemy Grumman fighter planes on their way back to their base in a transport plane on October 26. The reason why I have touched on the death of Flight Sergeant Major Nishizawa who enabled the five men of the Shikishima Unit to succeed in their mission is that his death would not have occurred if we had possessed a sufficient number of fighter planes.

"When I recall the words which Flight Sergeant Major Nishizawa addressed to me on the morning of October 25 when the Shikishima Unit took off on their last attack, that it was his turn next, I regret that he did not meet his death at least as a member of the Shinpu Special Attack Corps."

News and Views

It's Bargaining, Not Believing
By K. OYA

Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, and Chile, which followed one another's example of declaring war on Japan and Germany not many months ago, finally committed themselves on the afternoon of February 14 to signing the so-called Joint Declaration of the United Nations to be formally initiated into anti-Axis belligerency.

Originally the said document was the composition of 26 Anglo-American nationals assorted into a hall at Buenos Aires on New Year's Day in 1942 to announce their faith in the Atlantic Charter as the binding force of the United Nations, as they began to call themselves. Other signatory nations have been gradually added since; the latest addition of the four South American countries makes the number 40 altogether.

It was on the same day, that is, February 14, 1945, as the four South American countries were signing the document, that the "Big Three" came out with their Crimean Parley communique announcing decision on Poland which was a public murder of every letter of the Atlantic Charter. On that fateful winter afternoon at Washington, Undersecretary of State Joseph Clark Grew was solemnly presiding at the rite of signing away all pretense of the Atlantic Charter and reading a message full of hackneyed lines of condescension. "We are happy to welcome these nations formally into our fold," he canted. It is ironical the way things happen within the same 24 hours—good material for a "Believe It or Not" stunt.

But to those who are acquainted with the circumstances leading up to it, it was perhaps the only way in which things could have happened as far as those four South American countries were concerned. Not that it took them three long years to understand the virtue,—whatever that can be—of the Atlantic Charter; neither does it mean that they received a sudden inspiration from the Crimean communique which is a service to, and the murder of, the same Atlantic Charter. The reason why those four South American nations had been limiting their anti-Axis gestures to the severance of diplomatic relations with Japan and Germany, without declaring war upon them and without becoming signatories to the Atlantic Charter, was simply that they saw no necessity. They saw no call for fighting Japan and Germany. The Atlantic Charter never meant anything to them, and they knew that it was never meant to mean anything to them and small nations like them.

Why, then, their sudden commitment to what they never believed? Why this action so entirely unnatural to their national inclination? The answer is simple by telling pressure coming from Washington in the form of a suggestion on the national interests of those four countries being represented or not represented at the coming Pan-American Foreign Ministers' Conference to be held in Mexico City on February 21, and the World Security Council at San Francisco on April 25.

When these four countries yielded to the pressure of the northern Colussus, they were merely following the too numerous examples of other small helpless nations filling the list of anti-Axis membership who find it propitious to make a forced business deal without believing in what they are going in for. It is the old spectacle of expediency getting the better of principles, or a bargaining act at the expense of personal faith.

SCORES IN TOKYO AIR DUEL

100 B-29's Downed or Damaged to Date by Hien Unit

By Y. YAMAZAKI
Of the Military Press Corps

XX BASE, February 19.—The addition of one B-29 downed and six damaged today brings the brilliant record of the Hien Unit (Flying Swallow Unit) to 100 B-29's shot down or damaged since the enemy "super fortresses" commenced to raid Japan.

Corporal N. who brought down the B-29 following an aerial combat with the enemy near Shinjuku, Tokyo, was forced to land his own plane at XX due to engine trouble. After landing Corporal N. rushed to the spot where the twisted mass of the enemy plane still sputtered and smoked and told the story of his aerial attack as follows:

"About 2:50 p.m. I spied one plane of the first enemy formation flying at an altitude of about 8,000 meters. As I was at a greater height than my comrade planes, I was able to swoop down on the enemy at will. At about 30 meters above the enemy I focused my shots directly downward at the head of the enemy plane. For a time black smoke burst from the head of the B-29, but the fire appeared to be extinguished. I reversed my course and again concentrated my shots on the enemy's fore end for the second time. Soon the head and the body split apart and the huge bulk of the B-29 hurtled perpendicularly to the ground."

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SHOICHI KAWAMURA

[illegible] THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1945

Grew's Speech on France

[illegible] new report regarding [illegible] indicates that the conditions there are still growing worse. [illegible] incoming reports show that [illegible] horrible conditions of misery, [illegible], and anarchy have developed [illegible] starvation and freezing and [illegible] dissatisfaction bordering [illegible] state on the eve of revolution. That such a condition has [illegible] brought about by the Anglo-American "liberation" is clear. [illegible] Anglo-Americans therefore [illegible] assume responsibility for it, [illegible] what they are doing is merely [illegible] euphemistically of the [illegible] of France and doing nothing [illegible] French relief today.

[illegible] Britain may not [illegible] the necessary strength to ex[illegible] measures of relief, but can [illegible] United States too be devoid of [illegible] to aid France? If they are "[illegible]" without such ability, [illegible] their "liberation" must be a [illegible]. And if they are not offering [illegible] of relief while possessing [illegible] means to do so, then they have [illegible] right to talk of world peace [illegible] such irresponsibility. In re[illegible] to the United States Government's policy toward the "liberat[illegible]" countries, there have been [illegible] questions raised in the [illegible] States itself, but for some [illegible] the Government had not [illegible] clarified its attitude.

[illegible] speech on February 2 in [illegible] before the Foreign [illegible] Association by Joseph [illegible], Undersecretary of State, [illegible] therefore notable in that it at [illegible] definitely clarifies the United [illegible] Government's policy toward [illegible]. But it is questionable [illegible] the French people, desir[illegible] relief as early as possible, and [illegible] people of the United States, [illegible] a clarification of policy, [illegible] satisfied by Grew's long [illegible].

Grew's speech was constructed [illegible]. First he said, "It is the [illegible] conviction that the [illegible] of the United States are [illegible] to know what they face [illegible] their relations with other coun[illegible]—what is the background, and [illegible] are the details." But what [illegible] all was clarified by Grew was [illegible] to aid France was technically [illegible]. Grew said that France [illegible] the supply area behind the [illegible] battlefield and the fact that [illegible] French people lived there was [illegible] of the great tragedies of this [illegible]." Grew asserted that the [illegible] organization and ports [illegible] been destroyed, that weather [illegible] were adverse, with [illegible] cold and snowfall, and that [illegible] anti-Axis supply problem had [illegible] aggravated as the result of [illegible] German blows at Ardennes [illegible] Alsace. He attempted to [illegible] responsibility by declaring [illegible] the difficulties in bringing [illegible] relief for France had been [illegible] by "France's own internal [illegible] condition", by "the [illegible] of war," and by "certain [illegible] of God." Grew implied that [illegible] these facts, French re[illegible] was hopeless until the end of [illegible].

[illegible] declaring that it was thus [illegible] the most difficult of difficult [illegible] to assist France, Grew claim[illegible] this was the dark side but [illegible] there was a "bright side", [illegible] at length the aid given [illegible] by the United States. [illegible] grandiosely declared that [illegible] would be given to France [illegible] the first quarter of the year, [illegible] aggregate capacity of the [illegible] was a meager 182,000 tons. [illegible] made it clear that the United [illegible] would not send the materials [illegible] by France until after the [illegible] attempted to flatter the [illegible] into quietude by saying [illegible] were aware of this with [illegible] characteristic courage and clarity of mind." This was merely telling the French that their desires would not be fulfilled until after they had cooperated with the Anglo-American forces in the war, and that until then they would do well to dream of victory and bear it all.

Those who felt bitter displeasure in Grew's remarks were not only the French but some Americans too. For example, the Washington Post in an editorial on February 4 declared that Roosevelt "still has to shelve the policy which at one time endangered our relations with the French and our war against Germany". Charging that "the need of the liberated areas comes last in their program", the journal labeled this a "mistaken policy". The fact that the request for Lend-Lease aid was refused and the "request for a million tons a month for industrial requirements was trimmed to 90,000 tons", the journal said it "would allow France to work at 10 per cent of capacity". "Even the Germans did better than that", the paper declared, meaning that France before the Anglo-American "liberation" was much better off. The paper denounced Grew's deceptive speech, asserting, "We are afraid that till the agreement with the French is realized in actual practice, we cannot subscribe to Mr. Grew's portrayal of the 'brighter side.'"

The world well knows today that the situation in France is inexpressibly terrible, no matter how strenuously Grew might attempt to look light upon it. The French people look forward to victory, but many of them now wonder if that day will come while they are still alive. Today the noble sounding word "liberation" has been covered with mud as the result of the Anglo-American action of not carrying out their promises. The plight of the people of the countries which were deceived by the honeyed words of the Anglo-Americans is indeed tragic.

A Year Ago Today

February 22, 1944

Mrs. Gandhi, wife of Mahatma Gandhi died at Poona Prison according to a New Delhi radio report. Mrs. Gandhi had been suffering from heart disease for the past two months but had not been released by the British Authorities.

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A serious internal conflict has developed in the "Tito" faction of Yugoslavia because of the "blood purge" of the Soviet type that was carried out by General Joseph "Tito" Brozovich, Commander of the Partisan Army, it is reported from Agram.

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The Philippine Government issued a declaration in the name of President Jose P. Laurel that the country was in a state of emergency. The action is legally justified as the Emergency Declaration Bill which had been passed by the National Assembly was signed by the President, and, therefore, legislated, and the President exercised his rights under the new law in issuing the declaration

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The Anti-Axis Army Headquarters announced that the American 8th Air Force and 15th Bomber Command lost 41 bombers in the course of an air raid on Regensburg in Southern Germany. Many took off from their bases in England and Italy, according to a dispatch from Naples. The Americans effected a broad-day-light bombing attack on the German city but were subjected to a terrific counterattack at the hands of the German airmen that came up to give them battle.

• • •

Three enemy destroyers appeared off Kavieng on New Ireland and bombarded our position. Units of the Japanese Garrison Forces stationed there immediately counter-attacked, and repulsed all the raiders. Scoring a direct hit, one of the destroyers was set afire. No damage was done to our side.

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The French Government ordered the evacuation of all citizens from the Cherbourg area excepting those with special reasons, it is reported.

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Anti-Axis bomber formations appeared over Zagreb (formerly named Agram) at 10:30 a.m. and dropped extremely high explosives it is reported from the city. Many bombs exploded in the residential quarters. One church, two monasteries and two schools were destroyed, while many casualties were reported from among the citizens.

Fruits of Wisdom

Many think themselves to be truly God-fearing when they call this world a valley of tears. But I believe they would be more so, if they called it a happy valley. God is more pleased with those who think everything right in the world, than with those who think nothing right. With so many thousand joys, is it not black ingratitude to call the world a place of sorrow and torment?—Richter.

WRITERS FORGE TIES OF UNITY

Third Literary Rally Made Great Contributions

By MAYUMI HAGA
In the Nippon Dokusho Shimbun

The third literary rally which was held in Nanking, imparted far-reaching effects and lessons among all who attended it, the full results of which will most probably reveal themselves in the future. We cannot deny the fact that our conception of the term, "Greater East Asia", had been used in an abstract and vague sense regardless of our frequent references to it. The fact that we have been able to come in contact with living personalities, to appreciate and understand Greater East Asia in accord with local color and customs is in itself a rich harvest of the third literary rally. There is no doubt that this rally has given us greater food for thought than we had entertained previous to the gathering.

I myself was deeply impressed because I was able to understand the unfathomable depths of Asia and the source of our unlimited spirit as a result of the meeting. Let us take for example the Yangtze River, that giant current of Asia. Who is to say that a current of blood of the same magnitude as the Yangtze is not coursing through all our veins? Is there a person who does not desire to explore the source of this current? Everybody welcomed us with inexpressible warmth and the spirit of friendship prevailed. Everywhere we felt as if we had met our own blood and kin.

We also realized that the teachings of Confucius, Laotse and Chuangtse, which we had regarded before as mere theories and principles, exist in China as living characters. I shall always remember the day when I was able to meet such personages as Chou Tsuo-jen and Chien Yao-sun as one of the happiest days of my life. Such characters illustrate that the most fundamental and primitive things of Asia exist to a high degree in literary classics. This illustration is, moreover, made with the most unintentional naturalness. The depth of the meaning of Greater East Asia is most beautifully harmonized with simple innocence in their work. We may have progressed nearer to Asia's "tomorrow" but upon reflection we discover that we have been passing our time in the midst of trivial contradictions, collisions and vanities.

Anglo-Americans Crude

We had feared that China might remodel herself on the Anglo-American pattern until we came to know her. Although it cannot be denied that there are such elements among the frivolous section of the people in the cities, we have come to understand that the wisdom and greatness of Asia are so eternal and vast in character that America and England are unable to lay their hands on them.

The spirit and cultural traditions of the United States and Britain are far too crude and vulgar when compared with the wisdom of Asia. The transcendental character of Asia sternly and unshakably exists. It is true that some Japanese classical scholars had turned down China from the standpoint of national falsity, but would it not be more appropriate for us to appreciate the strong points of China instead of merely counting and criticizing her defects? I believe that such preparations are indispensable before reaching the awakening called "Greater East Asia".

There were some among the representatives from Japan who attempted to approach closer to China by trying to interpret everything along Japanese lines. However, so-called policies and cultural measures are unnecessary to China. The Chinese cannot discover anything which Japan can teach them in regard to policies. The Chinese people desire to understand human nature and are hungry for unity. Japan's true sincerity alone will be able to move the Chinese people. A cautious and prudent attitude will never draw out anything from them.

I will say in conclusion that collaboration with China is absolutely necessary for Japan in order for her to become a leading nation of Asia. A strong political structure is necessary to strengthen the tie which unites this sphere. It is for this reason that we have proposed the establishment of a "Greater East Asia Literature and Fine Arts Academy". We desire to create a sphere of kinship in Greater East Asia and realize an exchange of all types of culture between our blood-relations. All in all, I hope to study this problem and publish the results of my studies in the future.

No Other Answer

A member of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals went to Spain to open a branch in Barcelona.

When all the officials were gathered together at a meeting, he asked one of the Spaniards present what would be the best way to raise money for the maintenance of the branch organization.

"A bull fight," said the Spaniard.

World's Largest Library

The largest library in the world is in the Soviet Union's 12,000,000 volume collection in Moscow.

U.S. ECONOMY: A SELF-CONTRADICTION

Its Industries Have Attained Such Magnitude They Can Hardly Be Maintained By Domestic Market

By KAORU HARA

I

Since the time of her foundation, the United States has consistently held aloof from the outside world. The reason for this may be found in her peculiar economic position. In view of her very extensive domestic market in which the demand has always been greater than the supply of goods in the country, the attention of her capitalists has been concentrated toward the development of domestic economic resources, thus leaving them neither time nor need to turn their eyes to the markets abroad. Thus, even when European countries which, finding their own domestic markets shrinking in the face of their industrial development, started a race for foreign markets, colonies and spheres of influence, the United States found no incentive in joining this scramble for economic profits abroad. Her overseas advance was merely limited to the Caribbean Sea. However, it was foreseen by many far-sighted statesmen of the world of that time that this seeming lethargy was only temporary and that sooner or later, America would begin to push her economic frontier abroad. True to this prediction, the United States was at the beginning of the present century urging the "Open Door", and after the first World War advocating the principle of "equal treatment" in trade.

At the present time, the United States has expanded her productive power to an enormous scale. The production of her heavy industries has attained such a stupendous magnitude that it can hardly be maintained by the domestic market and the peacetime budget, no matter how the United States may effect her post-war industrial reconversion. If she intends to stave off unemployment and maintain her standard of living in the post-war era, the United States must make a vigorous advance into the international market. This situation has greatly whetted the ambition of American capitalists to control the world market, and their covert, though very strong, determination to set up a new structure for the monopolistic control of the world market by ousting British, German and other economic influences is in evidence everywhere. As this ambition of the American capitalists is in entire accord with the American Government's design to establish its military and political sway over the world through the creation of a sham international peace structure, the American Government has appointed prominent figures in the business world to important official positions so that it may push its international measures vigorously, in close collaboration with American capitalists, for the express object of securing both political and economic control of the world. For instance, the American shipping interests are today aspiring to control the post-war world shipping market with the big mercantile fleet which has been built during the war. Moreover, the American Government, attaching great importance to this big mercantile fleet as an instrument of national policy has to intention to maintain a large part of it in time of peace by granting subsidies to shipping circles while the remaining ships would be kept by the Government as a reserve fleet to be mobilized in case of national emergency. Through this arrangement, the United States plans to withdraw them any time from routes to and from a hostile nation and thus to break off trade relations with it.

Concerning petroleum, the most important of all strategic resources, the United States is attempting to extend her control over the oil resources of the world by aiding her oil capitalists in their efforts to monopolize them, while at the same time endeavoring to preserve her own oil resources as best she can. She is, moreover, planning to create an international structure for the control of the production and distribution of oil under an international agreement. The underlying purpose of this scheme is to secure her domination of the oil resources of the world and to suspend the sale of oil to "aggressor countries" through the manipulation of this machinery.

Has Opposite Object

The same sinister motive is also discernible in her international monetary plan. If America's real intention is to promote the economic recovery of the world with full regard for the freedom and independence of all countries, this can be achieved by stabilizing the Dollar and the Pound, thus enabling all countries to peg their currencies to them at will as well as by accommodating funds to any country which needs them. Instead of adopting this obvious course, however, America is scheming to create a central international monetary structure which has the opposite object in view. This shows that her true intention is to put herself in a position to break off monetary relations with any country which may act against her will and to compel all countries of the world to adopt an economic policy based on the gold standard. The views she set forth at the International Aviation Conference and her claim in regard to the punishment of the Axis Powers also leave one in no doubt as to her real intentions regarding her economic development abroad and her permanent control of world economy.

In short, the United States now finds herself under the necessity of abandoning her policy of aloofness in favor of that domination of the international economy. Her new policy is motivated, moreover, not by her professed solicitude for the independence, freedom and welfare of all countries, but by her ambition to gain permanent world hegemony. It is pronouncedly capitalistic and imperialistic, both in form and in character.

As already noted, American capitalism which now finds itself in possession of a productive power so enormous that it cannot be supported by the domestic market alone is forced to attempt its expansion abroad in quest of markets for its commodities and capital. This naturally brings American economy into close contact with world economy. Now, how world economy will be affected by this new development or what the future will have in store for it is a very important problem deserving careful study. In this connection, what must first be analyzed is the peculiar characteristics of American economy.

Built on Capitalism

Generally speaking, America has so far built her economic prosperity on capitalism and the belief is prevalent among her people that the freedom of private enterprise is the prerequisite for economic progress. Accordingly, whereas in the European economy "socialization" and "State control" form the central subjects of economic discussion, in America economic freedom and "free" access to the market find general advocacy. Thus, there is a fundamental difference between America's economic policy and that of Britain, the Soviet Union and other European countries. To reconcile these divergent ideas in any practical policy is admittedly very difficult. In the present age of socialization, therefore, the basic tenor of American policy must be regarded as a highly discordant factor.

A second peculiar characteristic is to be found in the American economic structure itself. Possessing, as she does, plentiful resources and all lines of industry, America has no need for imports. Consequently, it is difficult for her to carry on trade on a give-and-take basis with other countries. Notwithstanding the fact that she is a creditor country, she seeks an excess of exports over imports. This being so, American economy, far from harmonizing itself with international economy, tends to destroy the economic equilibrium of the world. This disturbing propensity of American economy is aggravated not only by the lack of understanding and experience on the part of the American people regarding international economy but also by the weakness inherent in American politics which has to submit to the demands of American capital and labor.

Let us now examine how these disturbing characteristics of American economy will affect world economy and what consequences they are likely to produce.

Must Keep Up Living Standard

The United States is now faced by the necessity of at once maintaining, through her export trade, her productive power and a high level of employment and preventing the deterioration of the standard of living of her people. Seeing, however, that the exports of any country are dependent on the purchasing power of the world, it is impossible for any country to go on exporting interminably without importing. It is true that in case credits are extended to a country in the form of investments, an excess of exports over imports may be maintained as long as these credits last, but in the event the debtor country is able to pay its debts, its principal as well as interest, the creditor country will find it necessary to import products from it in order to furnish it with purchasing power. In this way, the international accounts can be balanced and international investments can be made to contribute to economic progress.

Britain which reigned supreme in the nineteenth century may be cited as affording a typical example in this regard. Britain's productive power brought her an excess of exports over imports but her overseas investments also grew. Thus, as she became a creditor country, she began to import more than she exported, with the result that the economic equilibrium of the world was maintained. In the meantime, Britain effected the centralization and specialization of her commerce and industry, and with the collapse of her agriculture, a large proportion of her population became dependent on cheaper imported foodstuffs. Her economy was thus placed on the principle of geographical division of labor and the free trade which she championed brought her prosperity and benefited all countries with whom she carried on trade operations. France, Germany and other small European countries such as Belgium and the Netherlands followed Britain's example, on the whole, and shaped their course similarly. As a result, the economic development of uncivilized countries as well as the New World and the growth of European capitalism were achieved on a complementary basis, and thus world economy was stabilized for a comparatively long period on the gold standard and free trade.

Big Creditor Nation

On the other hand, the United States has shaped her course differently. She expanded her productive power during the first World War, and the loans she gave to other countries during and after that war made her a big creditor country. Placed in such a position, she should have increased her imports from foreign countries, but she did nothing of the kind. What she actually did was, as in 1922 and in 1930, to raise her tariffs to a prohibitive level, thus closing her market to foreign goods. This unscrupulous action had the natural effect of draining the world of its purchasing power and rendering the payment of war debts and reparations difficult. The Johnson Act under which America suspended the extension of credits to the countries who defaulted on the payment of their war debts proved most conclusively a very grievous lack of understanding and knowledge on the part of Americans about international economy.

While closing her own market to foreign goods on the one hand, America, on the other hand, now demands that the other countries should abolish trade restrictions and throw open their markets as well as to agree on the formula of multilateral accounts with gold. No grosser case of inconsistency is imaginable. That is because the United States has a monopoly over the world's gold supply, causing a natural contraction of credit in the world economy and widespread depression. Meanwhile, driven by the imperative necessity of balancing international accounts, many countries had to resort to compensatory trade and exchange control and then further to economic control or broad-sphere planned economy. The gold standard and the principle of equal treatment were thus completely abandoned. For bringing about this state of affairs many causes may be mentioned, but the most cogent one was the selfish economic policy which America consistently pursued in utter disregard of international cooperation. From this point of view, it may fairly be concluded that America's economic policy furnished the distant cause of the present war. What makes America's policy non-international in character is that America is self-sufficient in her resources and that although she has to export her goods she has no need for imports. In other words, viewed from the standpoint of world economic equilibrium, American economy is highly destructive in character.

Depression Faces World

The United States is now making desperate efforts to establish a policy under which she can ensure her own economic prosperity and maintain a high level of employment in the post-war days, and to this end she is directing earnest attention to the successful disposal of her surplus production through the grant of credits on a large scale. This is, indeed, the course which a country of her position may well conceive, and she may be able to keep herself prosperous in this way for some time after the war. The question is, however, whether she can later pass on to the stage where she would have to import more than she exports. If she cannot, the world will be thrown once again into depression just as after the first World War. America too will then be overtaken by unemployment and business depression, which will as likely as not induce the development of public opinion in support of exclusive planned economy.

To all appearances, the United States has during the present war given no evidence whatever of correcting her misconception of international economy, for she is still deeply obsessed by her traditional ideas. Viewing international economy simply as a channel for disposing of her own surplus production, she shows little regard for the laws governing international economy, nor does she show much interest in its true stabilization. In order to maintain her own shipping, for instance, she is advocating subsidies and, at the same time, insisting on the elimination of Axis shipping. Moreover, she is planning to maintain her artificial rubber industry. Again, in order to facilitate the sale of her wheat and raw cotton, she is intending to subsidize their exports.

(To Be Continued)

U.S. BUSINESS IN 1944

Reconversion and Inflation Were Biggest Issues

I

The American magazine Time, on January 8, wrote under "Business in 1944" as follows:

In 1943 United States proved that it could supply both guns and butter, but few expected that 1944 would be annus mirabilis and that it would not only see the increase in the supply of guns but nonmaterial reduction in rations, of butter (or reasonable facsimile thereof).

Money flowed freely; it flowed into department stores. Their sales were big; ten per cent over the year before. It flowed into real estate. Home owners sold out at high profits—until they found that all profits were not enough to buy another roof over their heads.

Money flowed into the stock market bulling up stocks month after month until they reached their highest point since 1940. There was money for everything, for jewels, for mink coats, for Broadway shows.

Not all the money was slipping through loose fingers. There were three billion dollars in the savings tucked away, more or less reluctantly, because there were no autos, refrigerators and so on to spend money on.

The best barometer of the nation's wartime spending—and inflation—came from restaurants, night clubs and taverns.

There was an anguished cry when the Congress slapped twenty per cent tax on night clubs. But their take for years, along with all other amusement enterprises, was up a billion dollars over 1943.

Flow of money was a necessary evil to the manufacture of astronomical numbers of guns, shells, tanks and so on.

By early 1944, miracles of production were no longer news. No longer were there men who performed them. Men of the year in business could be numbered by hundreds.

Production lines spewed out so many tanks, planes, materials of all kinds that by midyear, the problem was considered no longer one of the production but of cutbacks.

Outside of Philadelphia, Edward Budd Manufacturing Company opened its spick and span $26,000,000 plant with blare of publicity.

Contract Was Cancelled

A month later the navy cancelled its contract with Budd. In less spectacular fashion ammunition plants were shut down all over the nation, at least, one of them before a single pound of powder had been made. Cutbacks hit the aluminum and magnesium-pocketed nation here and there with jobless, and they stirred up the fracas of the year between Nelson and Charlie Wilson.

The issue was simple: had the time come for the United States to begin reconverting to the peace query, eyeing the mammoth stockpiles for war and progress of the Allied armies across France? Nelson thought it had. Wilson did not think so. The reconversion won, and Wilson tacitly said that perhaps Nelson had been right. For he promptly reconverted himself back to General Electric and remarked that the General Electric's reconversion was "one hell of a job."

When he left Washington scores of their businessmen-in-government thought it was time to leave too. Even old Bernie Baruch, who had warned in February that "the bloodiest and costliest war in Europe still lies ahead," now wrote to Jimmy Byrnes: "Hurry, hurry, hurry not only in winning the war but in being ready for peace."

Byrnes's answer was more or less a plan than a promise. In effect Byrnes promised that virtually all of the shackles would be dropped from business when Germany quit on V-Day. The momentum of war production in 1944 would practically be enough to win the war against Japan. And the War Production Board which controlled the United States industrial economy would shrivel to vermiform the appendix which at the end of the Japanese war it would snip off. So when Julius Krug came back to the head of W.P.B. his coming was like an arrival of a friend to attend the last rites.

In this governmental frame of mind, leave was pried off the civilian production ready to be thrown away when V-Day came tomorrow—or a day after. But tomorrow did not come in 1944.

The United States war spending, which reached its peak in June and then was expected to start down, stayed at $250,000,000 per day near the peak. Almost unnoticeably, tight shut ammunition plants were reopened, big new contracts were loaded on business men who had once worried about cutbacks.

(To Be Continued)

The Lowest Mark

Student: "I don't think I should get zero in this exam."

Professor: "I know it, but its the lowest mark there is."

PRESS COMMENTS

Wednesday, February 21

ENEMY LANDING ON YIOJIMA

ASAHI—The enemy has effected a landing on Yiojima at the southern extremity of Japan Proper.

There is no need to point out again that the enemy's aim in invading this island is to push his bases for an attack on Japan Proper. If by chance it should fall into enemy hands, the enemy would acquire a strong intermediary base between his group of bases in the Marianas and our mainland. It would then become possible for the B-29's from the Marianas to be accompanied by fighter plane formations, coming from that intermediary base. Furthermore, it would be possible for the enemy to increase the frequency of his raids by advancing B-24's to that base.

Impatient for a quick decision of this war, the enemy is pushing his operations by throwing in the utmost fighting strength available in the midst of the Luzon campaign. It is a cause of deep gratification, however, that in the face of this enemy invasion our Garrison Forces on that island are fighting determinedly and fiercely, causing the enemy severe losses in men and materials as revealed in the announcements.

Although Yiojima is one of many scattered islands in the Pacific, yet it may be said to be a part of the mainland. Its military value as an outpost in the Pacific is of very great importance. For obvious reasons it is beyond comparison with the Solomons or the South Sea Islands. It must definitely not be considered "an isolated island in the ocean." Situated only 1,200 kilometers from our mainland, it is within the radius of action of our Air Control Units. To save Yiojima from becoming an isolated island and at the same time to protect our mainland from the enemy's strategic bombings, all depends on the strengthening of our air power. We are indeed standing at an important crossroad which requires our whole concentration on the strengthening of our air power.

STRATEGY AND CONSPIRACY

YOMIURI-HOCHI—This war is being fought with all available means, orthodox military tactics at times being combined with effective unorthodox maneuvers.

When, with Guadalcanal as the turning point, our military situation became passive, the enemy began fresh maneuvers, hurling his first stone at us at the Cairo Conference. He threw his second maneuver bombshell in the form of the Hotsprings "Japan Disposal Plan."

There is no need to dwell at length on the contents of his plan. Our feelings over enemy's unpardonable attempt to tamper with our unblemished national polity and his intention to eradicate the Japanese race with its brilliant traditions of 3000 years, are beyond description. The only way to respond is by drastic action.

However, we feel that it is necessary to give a word of warning to the people concerning the enemy's motive in employing such maneuvers at this time. The enemy is hoping that since Saipan, our people will have become nervous, especially with the B-29's coming day after day to air raid us. He also hopes the war situation in the Philippines and the recent visit of his task force to Japan and also the situation in Europe, has had an adverse effect on our morale.

However, we would reply that now our people are more than ever determined to hold their ground and retrieve the situation. They remind themselves of the words of the famous European philosopher, Joseph de Maistre, always used by Marshal Foch, to the effect that one is defeated in battle only if one admits oneself beaten. Marshal Foch, in the Marne Battle of September 1914, at the collapse of his own camp, issued the famous report saying that "our center has been destroyed, and our right wing has withdrawn. In this most favorable situation, we are about to take the offensive." And thus he broke through the enemy lines, accomplishing the so-called "Marne miracle."

With the enemy having landed on Yiojima, our mainland is exposed to grave danger, but we are ready to fight with the keenest ardor to turn to the offensive. Our position at present can be compared with that of being pulled in a tug-of-war. If we waver now, it means defeat. Now is the time to be steady and fight with all our might and stamina.

In what way shall we show that stamina? By directly linking all our efforts with the war. We must act always with the thought of how our actions will affect the war as a whole. This is the way to fight this war through to victory. The battle is hard, but the road to victory is near.

The Human Pump

While the body is at rest, the human heart pumps blood at the rate of 90 gallons per hour. During violent exercise, it pumps from 450 to 600 gallons per hour.